

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/747,847	BRUNO ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Hung T. Vy	2163

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 11/21/2006.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4, 10 and 12.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

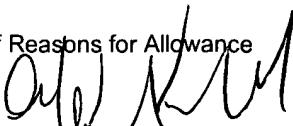
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 1/6/2007
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.



ALFORD KINDRED
PRIMARY EXAMINER

1. As of entry of the amendment filed on 11/21/2006 and interview on 01/04/2007, claims 1-4, 10, and 12 are pending in this application. Upon reconsideration and telephone interview on 01/04/2007, claims 1-4, 10, and 12 are allowed.

Examiner's Amendment

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and /or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.3.12. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The following claim has been amended upon agreement by applicant during a telephone conversation with Mr. Thomas M. Isaacson on January 4, 2007.

In claim 1, line 13 (last line), the phase "a leaf node." has been changed to --a leaf node, and if the further stream node is not a leaf node, returning to step (d). --

In claim 10, line 16 (last line), the phase "a leaf node." has been changed to --a leaf node, and if the further stream node is not a leaf node, returning to step (e). --

In claim 12, line 15 (last line), the phase "a leaf node." has been changed to --a leaf node, and if the further stream node is not a leaf node, returning to step (e). --

Reasons for Allowance

3. Claims 1-4, 10, and 12 are allowed

The following is an examiner's statement of reason for allowance:

With respect to claims 1-4, 10 and 12, none of the references of record teaches or suggests the claimed a method of computing an answer to a query path pattern,

comprising, along with all the other claimed feature, associating a respective stream nodes containing positional attributes, associating a respective stack to each node in the query pattern, **sorting the stream nodes** according to a first one of the positional attributes, determining whether a first set of streams is empty, **retrieving a first node** in the first set of streams having **a minimum value** for the first one of the positional attributes, **removing** partial answers that cannot extend **to full answers from a stack** associated with the query pattern node; augmenting remaining partial answer with a further stream node determining whether the further stream node is a leaf node and producing solution.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung VY whose telephone number is (571) 272-1954. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 5:30pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, DON WONG can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published application may be obtained from either private Pair or Public Pair. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private Pair only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have question on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hung T. Vy
Art Unit 2163
January 6, 2007.



ALFORD KINDRED
PRIMARY EXAMINER